GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:259
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2005
CREATION OF COMMON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

:-

(a) whether the Government has recently decided to create a core common Information and Communication Technology for use by all Ministries / Departments of the Union and State Governments etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total estimated cost thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS ANDINFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a): Government has issued Guidelines for establishment of State Wide Area Network (SWANs) upto the block level in each of the State/UTs. These SWANs along with NICNET will serve as core common ICT Infrastructure for use by various Central Ministries / Departments and State Governments.

(b):
(i) The Policy aims at providing support to State Governments to establish State Wide Area Networks (SWANs) from the State Headquarters upto the Block level with a minimum bandwidth capacity of 2 Mbps. These networks would be connected to NICNET through appropriate interfaces.

(ii) For the State to be eligible for funding under the policy, it should have undertaken implementation of three major state wide e-Governance Projects that require such connectivity. At least one of these projects should have been completely rolled out over the entire state.

(iii) As per the policy, Department of Information Technology will meet the capital and operational costs of the network over a period of 5 years. The respective States will have to bear Bandwidth/Transponder access cost required for the network, physical site and all other related recurring costs.

(iv) State may opt to implement the SWAN either through the National Informatics Centre or through any other agency selected by the State.

(v) State Government should adhere to the Guidelines for Security, Standardization, Inter-operability and Interconnect requirements between NICNET and the SWAN.

(c): It is estimated that an expenditure of Rs.3334 crore with Government of India share of Rs.2005 crore and State share of Rs.1329 crore would be required for the coverage of all States/UTs.